COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES
This course will serve two primary purposes. Firstly, it will introduce you to the fundamental techniques of creative writing. Secondly, it will introduce you to the discipline of creative writing, to discussions about writing, and to the creative writing workshop. We will begin the course by looking at the different ways fiction and poetry employ common elements, such as image, voice, character, and setting, and use writing exercises and workshop critique sessions to strengthen and develop your understanding and employment of them. During the second half of the semester, we will spend time looking at the components of each genre, and produce writing that explores a range of approaches. Most importantly, this course is designed to introduce you to a variety of styles so that you become a better reader and, therefore, a more confident writer. Students will be expected to learn the necessary terminology, to identify and discuss various writing techniques, and to apply those techniques in their writing.

Instructor  David Hiriart
Class Meeting T&Th 12pm-1:20pm
Room  EDUC 110
Office  EDU 907
Phone  (915) 747-5713
Office Hours  By appointment.
Email  dhiriart@miners.utep.edu
CRW 3362
Introduction to Creative Writing

REQUIRED TEXTS:
- Supplemental readings (distributed in class, email or Blackboard)

BLACKBOARD & EMAILS

All assignments, announcements, and workshop posts will be sent via Blackboard or Email. You must check your UTEP-assigned email and Blackboard messages frequently. I may send homework updates and clarifications through email or Blackboard. In addition, some classes might be held through a Discussion Forum on Blackboard. You will be notified in advance when this is the case.

GRADING POLICY:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Component</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Writing/Reading Exercises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Literary or Cultural Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Workshop Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Final Portfolio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REQUIREMENTS

**Participation:** Active participation (asking questions, commenting on readings, etc.) shows me that you are reading the material and are fully engaged in the class.

**Writing/Reading Excercises:** At the beginning of the semester we will familiarize ourselves with the terms and techniques of the class by actively using them and analyzing them in other texts.

**Midterm:** Five page essay analyzing a narrative cultural product (novel, film, comic book) using the terms used in class.

**Literary or Cultural Event:** Students are required to attend a literary reading or cultural event and write a small 250-300 words (printed) response no later than 1 week after attending.

**Workshop Participation:** Workshop is the main activity of the class in which we submit our writing to critique and critique the writing of our classmates. See Workshop Guidelines attached.

**Final Portfolio:** Instead of a final exam, you will be submitting a portfolio of revised texts that you worked on throughout the course, prefaced by a one page introduction that explains your creative and revision process.
WORKSHOP GUIDELINES
- The class will be divided into two groups, your group defines when you are being workshopped. See Calendar

- Bring hardcopies of your piece the day BEFORE you are being workshopped, this give us time to read the piece and have thoughtful comments on it.

- If your group is not being workshopped then you must bring in a two paragraph response for each piece that is workshopped (2 hardcopies, one for the instructor and one for the person workshopped)

- You should be attentive to what is said during workshop and take notes, as your final revisions should be based on what you take away from workshop.

WORKSHOP ETIQUETE
- No value judgments. (Ex. “I liked it”/“I hated it”)

- The writer may not speak. (The text has to speak for itself)

- Be constructive. (Talk about what works and doesn’t work using precise terminology we have learned in class)

- Do not take the writer’s pen. (Suggestions are allowed but avoid rewriting the story, Ex. “it should end this other way instead”)

- If you don’t have a precise comment, pose a question to the workshop group (Ex. “Did anyone else have a hard time with following so and so?”)

- If you have a precise comment accompany it with an example. (Ex.”On this page, you have two characters that are too similar”)
CRW 3362
Introduction to Creative Writing

COURSE CALENDAR

4/2
Syllabus Overview
Why is Literature Important?

6/2
Burroway Ch. 1 Invitation to the Writer
Creative Exercise Due

11/2
Burroway Ch. 2 Image
Analysis Exercise Due

13/2
Burroway Ch. 3 Voice
Creative Exercise Due

18/2
Burroway Ch. 4 Character
Analysis Exercise Due

20/2
Burroway Ch. 5 Setting
Creative Exercise due

25/2
Burroway Ch. 6 Story
Analysis Exercise due

27/2
Burroway Ch. 7 Development and Revision
Creative Exercise due

3/3
Burroway Ch. 8 Creative Non-Fiction Discussion
Analysis Exercise due

5/3
Non Fiction Workshop Group 1

10/3
Non Fiction Workshop Group 2

12/3
Non Fiction Workshop Group 3

17/3 - 19/3
No Class Spring Break

24/3
Burroway Ch. 8 Fiction Discussion
In-class Analysis Exercise

26/3
Fiction Workshop Group 1

31/3
Fiction Workshop Group 2

10/23
Fiction Workshop Group 3

2/4
Burroway Ch. 9 Poetry Discussion
In-class Analysis Exercise

7/4
Poetry Workshop Group 1

9/4
Poetry Workshop Group 2

14/4
Poetry Workshop Group 3

16/4
Final Portfolio Overview

21/4
Portfolio Meeting Group 1

23/4
Portfolio Meeting Group 2

28/4
Portfolio Meeting Group 3

7/5
Final Portfolio Due
CRW 3362
Introduction to Creative Writing

COURSE POLICIES

Formatting

All texts (with the exception of poems) submitted for this class must be space and a half, 1 inch margins all around and 11-12 points in either Times New Roman or Arial. Workshop stories may be double sided.

Poems should be typed, printed, single-spaced in a single-column (unless you are purposefully writing a multiple-column poem), in a single standard font, 11-12 pt. size. Please use a full page for your poems, as the whitespace of a poem is just as important as the written text.

Scholastic Dishonesty

Plagiarism in this class means submitting someone’s work in your assignments without the proper citations or handing in work you’ve written for another class. Collusion means unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing assignments. Neither is acceptable, and this type of behavior is subject to disciplinary action. To avoid plagiarism, just do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself, do not turn in work you’ve written for another class, and always cite sources for ideas or language taken from another writer. Please refer to UTEP’s policy for further information: http://sa.utep.edu/osccracademic-integrity/

Cell Phones / Laptop computers

In order to avoid receiving calls and text messages during class time, please turn off your cell phone before entering the classroom. Answering a call, texting, writing e-mail or surfing the web during class will result in being counted absent that day.

Student with Disabilities

I will make reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services within the first week of class:

Web: http://sa.utep.edu/cass/
Phone: (915)747-5148 voice or TTY
E-Mail: cass@utep.edu

Writing Center Information

Summer 2019 Hours: TBA